Chicago

A ma chère Emilie
Souvenir de son
Oncle Jacques
Chicago Juin 1893

CHICAGO.

Illustrated in Albertype.

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DESCRIPTIVE.

THE site of Chicago (an Indian word signifying a "king" or a "deity") was visited as early as August 1673 by Joliet and Father Jacques Marquette (1675), but was soon abandoned by them. The first actual settlement was made by John Kinzie, an Indian trader, who brought his family with him in 1804, in which year Fort Dearborn was built at the head of the present Michigan Avenue by the United States Government. The post was deserted in 1812, when the Potawatomie Indians, notwithstanding their promise to safely escort the settlers and the soldiers to Fort Wayne, massacred most of them and made prisoners of the rest. After this the whites kept away from the place until 1816, when the fort was rebuilt. At the close of 1830 Chicago had twelve houses and three country residences in Madison Street, with a population of about 100 whites, half-breeds and negroes. The town was organized in 1833, after a purchase of 20,000;000 acres of land in the North-West from the Indians, who removed West of the Mississippi. In 1837 Chicago was incorporated as a city with 5,732 population, which in 1851 numbered 34,437 and in 1861 over 140,000.

Originally the site of Chicago was barely on a level with the lake and at portions of the year nothing but a swamp or morass. In 1833 the United States Government spent $30,000 in dredging the Chicago River. Later on, by a masterpiece of engineering, the course of the river, the present outlet for the sewers, was reversed and, instead of emptying into Lake Michigan, the river was pumped into other channels inland and thence through the Illinois River to the Mississippi. The streets were drained, hollow places filled up and their grade gradually raised until it stood twelve feet higher.

On Sunday, October 8th, 1871, Mrs. O'Leary's, or as others say Mrs. Scully's refractory cow upset a kerosene lamp in the stable, at the corner of Jefferson and DeKoven Streets, on the West side, set fire to the shed and thereby started the great conflagration by which more than 200 people perished, over 20,000 buildings were consumed, and nearly $200,000,000 worth of property destroyed, only $44,000,000 worth of which was insured. Nearly 3⅓ square miles of the business part of the city and all the official buildings were swept away and 100,000 people made homeless within 30 hours. But, as an eternal monument of the indomitable energy of the inhabitants, Chicago rose like a Phenix from the ashes, and to-day no traces are left either of this or the other great fire which, on July 14th, 1874, destroyed 18 blocks or 60 acres in the heart of the city with 600 houses and over $4,000,000, worth of property.

The City of Chicago is situated on the South-Western shore of the Lake Michigan, and covers an area of 170 square miles, which is divided by the Chicago River and its branches into the Northern, Western and Southern divisions, connected with each other by over 60 swing bridges and 2 tunnels. Chicago has 2,000 miles of street frontage, 50 miles of which are beautiful driveways or boulevards, a river frontage of 50 and a lake frontage of 20 miles. Having a population of 1,250,000, Chicago ranks as the second city in the United States and the seventh in the world. About two-thirds of the number are of American and one-third of foreign birth. According to the valuation of 1890 there is $170,553,854 worth of real estate and $13,554,900 of personal property in Chicago.

The city receives its water supply from a pentagonal-shaped floating structure, braced in every direction, in the Lake Michigan, two miles from the shore, called the *Crib*, in which the water is forced by numerous engines from 31 feet below the bottom of the lake into an immense standpipe 154 feet high. Two iron tunnels seven feet in diameter connect the crib with the North Side water works, two miles away, at the foot of Chicago Avenue, and the West Side water works, six miles away, on the corner of Ashland Avenue and 22nd Street.

Among the **buildings of Chicago** ranks first the *City Hall and County Court House*, occupying the square bounded by Randolph, Clark, Washington and La Salle Streets, a massive structure, reminding one of the temples described in ancient history, where the culminating glory of a nation was embodied in building a temple to the gods. The symbolic designs standing out in bold relief and apparently as supports to the immense structure, represent the noblest sentiments of human kind. The *U. S. Post Office and Custom House* covers the block between Clark and Dearborn, Adams and Jackson Streets, and is fireproof throughout, being constructed almost entirely of iron and sandstone. The *Chamber of Commerce*, at the corner of La Salle and Washington Streets, is a spacious and imposing building with elaborate interior decorations. The ceiling is frescoed with allegorical pictures, representing the trade of the city, the great fire and the re-building. *The Board of Trade* owns a magnificent granite structure with a tower 265 feet high. *The Criminal Court and Jail* is on Dearborn Avenue; it can be visited on Tuesdays and Fridays. The number of towering business buildings from ten to twenty-four stories high, and enormous wholesale and retail warehouses, not only along State Street, which is 7 miles long and is for Chicago what the Broadway is for New York, but almost all over the city, is very large. Among the most noteworthy we mention: the *First National Bank Building*, which cost $500,000; the buildings of the *Chicago National Bank*, the *National Bank of Illiinois* and the *Commercial National Bank;* the *Pullman Building*, of palace car fame, on Michigan Avenue; the *Home Insurance Co.*, the *Adams Express Building*, *Counselman Building*, *Temple Court* and *Owings Building*, *Chicago Telephone Co.*, the *Rookery*, *McCormick Block*, the new *Montauk Block*, *Marshall Field & Co's*, the *Lakeside Building*, *Singer Building*, &c.

The most imposing of the **Monuments** in Chicago is that of the late Senator *Stephen A. Douglas*, the great statesman and founder of the University of Chicago, on Cottage Grove Avenue and 33rd Street. In Lincoln Park are two *Sphinxes*, at the Garfield Avenue entrance, the *Garfield Monument*, *Statues of Cavalier de La Salle* and *Schiller*, the *Grant* and *Lincoln Monuments*, *Ryerson's* beautiful *Monument to the Ottawa Indians*. The *Drexel Fountain* is on the Drexel Boulevard, near the entrance to South Park, and the *Police Monument*, erected in 1889, in commemoration of the brave behavior of the police force during the labor riots on May 4th, 1886, stands on Haymarket, where the bombs were thrown.

The importance of Chicago as a center of trade is best shown by the following notes which give fair average figures for the last three years: Post Office receipts, $2,500,000, with 500,000,000 pieces of mail matter, weighing 27,000 tons; Custom House receipts, $5,000,000 on goods valued at about $15,000,000 per year. Number of manufacturing establishments, excluding food products, 3,000, employing 140,000 hands, operating with $115,000,000 of capital and producing about $400,000,000 worth of goods per annum. The *Shipping Lists* show an average of 25,000 vessels having a total tonnage of 9,000,000. *The Union Stock Yards* receive more than ten millions of heads of live stock, valued at $200,000,000 and ship over one thousand million pounds of dressed meat besides one million cases of canned meat and barrels of pork annually. Receipts of breadstuffs: one hundred million bushels of wheat, corn, oats, rye and barley, and two million barrels of flour per year. There are 29 registered *Elevators* in Chicago with an aggregate capacity of twenty-eight million bushels. The *Board of Trade*, founded in 1848, was incorporated in 1850 by thirteen subscribers, paying an admission fee of $5. Now the number of members is 2,000 and the admission fee $10,000. The entire trade of Chicago is estimated at $1,300,000,000 per annum. In addition to its water facilities, Chicago is the terminating point for 27 railways, varying in length from 50 to 7,000 miles. There are six large union depots and two used exclusively by the lines owning them. The most important among them from an architectural standpoint are: the *Chicago, Burlington & Quincy*, covering four blocks; *Chicago & Northwestern*, *Dearborn Station*, *Lake Shore & Michigan Southern*, *Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific* and the *Wisconsin Central* station. There are fifty way stations within the city limits for the accommodation of local traffic. *Banks and Finances.*—The Clearing House returns average $4,000,000,000 annually. There are 33 banks; 8 savings banks and 31 large banking firms. The twenty National Banks, at head of which stands the First National Bank, have a capital of over $22,000,000.

Chicago has ample **hotel facilities** to accommodate more than 200,000 strangers at a time in 50 large and over 1,200 smaller hotels. Among the most luxurious and also the largest are the *Palmer House*, covering a whole square, with 728 rooms, which was built at an expense of $4,000,000; the *Grand Pacific*, six stories high; the *Tremont House*, originally a small inn very popular among the first settlers; the *Sherman House* in the business centre, the *Leland*, the *Hotel Richelieu*, *Gore's Fireproof Hotel*, *McCoy's new European Hotel*, &c.

Schools, Educational Institutions and Libraries.—In Chicago are 120 primary, grammar and high schools, with about 1,500 teachers and 90,000 pupils; 15 colleges of medicine, law and theology; 6 academies of sciences and art and 2 universities. In addition to those, there are over 150 private schools, with about 800 teachers and 35,000 pupils; various societies for the encouragement of studies of fine arts, drawing, painting, sculpture, &c. Several musical associations, 13 libraries and reading rooms, and one military academy.

Churches, Charitable Institutions and Hospitals.—The number of christian churches in Chicago is nearly 300; convents 10, synagogues 14, hospitals 13, accommodating about 7,000 patients, dispensaries 14 and asylums 28. Besides these there are innumerable benevolent associations for all kinds of charitable purposes. The *Cook County Hospital*, which covers two squares on West Taylor and West Harrison Streets, with its recent extensions, is one of the largest and best equipped institutions of its kind in America; the *Michael Reese Hospital*, the *Mercy Hospital* and the *Alexian Brothers' Hospital* should also be seen by visitors.

Theatres, Places of Amusement, Clubs, &c.—Chicago has 25 theatres, 3 great panoramas, 45 clubs, and like all other large cities, any number of large and small society halls and associations. The most noteworthy theatrical building is the *Auditorium*, a colossal structure in granite and brick, covering a full square, 10 stories high, with 5,000 seats and a total capacity of 8,000. Within the building there is also a first-class hotel and innumerable large and small rooms for office purposes. From the tower of the Auditorium a splendid view can be had all over the city, the prairie and the lake. The costs of the building amounted to over $2,000,000; then follow the *Academy of Music*, the *Chicago* and the *Grand Opera Houses*, the *Columbia*, *Haverly's*, *Haymarket*, *Hooley's*, *Jacobs'*, *McVicker's*, *Standard* and *Windsor Theatres*. Concerts and lectures are mostly held at the *Central Music Hall* and *Farwell Hall*. A peculiar feature of Chicago is the *Libby Prison*, of Richmond, Va., in which more than 12,000 Union soldiers were kept prisoners during the war. It was bought by Chicago capitalists in 1889, pulled down, all the stones shipped to Chicago, rebuilt stone by stone in its old style on its present site on Wabash Avenue, filled with many thousands of valuable and important relics of the late civil war and opened as a war museum. The Young Men's Christian Association, the Farragut Boat, the Calumet, Chicago Union League, Standard, Germania and many other clubs occupy elegant houses of their own.

Parks and Boulevards.—If the parks are the lungs of a city, Chicago enjoys, among many others, also the distinction of havingthe most elaborate breathing apparatus of any large city in the world. There are not less than 13 parks, with a total area of over 2,000 miles, most of which are connected with the others by handsome boulevards, which are from 100 to 200 feet wide and contain 50 miles of driveways besides those within the parks, hence the name of *Garden City*, as Chicago is generally termed. The names of the parks are as follows: *Douglas* Park (185 acres), *Ellis*, *Garfield*, formerly *Central* (185 acres), with the Chicago Jockey Club and the "Matinee" tracks and excellent drives, artificial lakes, lawns, pavilions, a large fountain for the use of man and horses, erected by the Illinois Humane Society; *Humboldt* (225 acres), particularly excelling the others by its beautiful lakes, with a splendid view upon the light-house, the breakwater, the crib and over the lake, always alive with all kinds of vessels; *Lincoln*, with a frontage of over two miles on the lake, is the most complete, interesting and beautiful of all. It includes a conservatory, a zoological garden with bear pits, sea lion tanks. &c. &c., rustic bridges, miniature lakes, grottoes and groves. *Union Park* also is very attractive and so are *Vernon*, *Woodlawn* and *Washington Parks*, the latter with one of the

largest unbroken lawns in America, a very valuable conservatory and a race course. On fine days the boulevards and parks, especially those in which concerts are given during the summer, are as thronged with promenaders and carriages as the Hyde Park or the Bois de Boulogne ever were.

The World's Columbian Exposition, in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America, will be held in Chicago from May 1st to October 30th, 1893. The site of the exposition will be Jackson Park, on the shore of Lake Michigan, and Washington Park, with a river frontage of two miles. In the northern portion of the grounds will be a picturesque group of 40 to 50 buildings of foreign nations and of a number of States of the Union. In the western part the *Hall for Fine Arts* and the *Illinois State Building* will stand. The latter will be severely classic in style, with a dome in the centre and a great porch facing southward. South of these will be a lagoon, with an inlet to the lake, and encompassing three islands. On the largest one the *United States Fisheries Building* will stand, in which there will be the *Aquaria* and the *Tackle Exhibit*. The *United States Government Building*, which stands a little further south, will be constructed of stone, iron and glass, having a dome 150 feet high and 120 feet in diameter. Near the lake shore, east of this building, the government will erect a *Gun Battery*, a *Life Saving Station* complete with all apparatus and in full working order, a *Light House*, *War Balloons*, and a full sized model of a $3,000,000 *Battle Ship* of the first class. In the vicinity of this man-of-war the *Columbus Fleet*, an exact reproduction of the one with which the great discoverer sailed from Palos, a Government Revenue Cutter and one or two Torpedo Boats will anchor. Leaving the government exhibits, the visitor will find himself in front of the largest building of the exposition, that of *Manufactures and Liberal Arts*, in French renaissance style. It will measure 1,700 by 800 feet, with two interior courts and at its centre a great dome, 350 feet in diameter.

Two parallel *Piers* will extend from the shore 400 feet into the harbor, thence the northern one into the lake to a total distance of 1,500 feet. From the entrance to the piers, extending westward across the park, will be a long and broad avenue, on the left hand side of which will be the *Agricultural Building*, elaborately ornamented with statues and relief work. West of this and connected with it by a horseshoe arcade, is the *Machinery Hall*. To the northward the two buildings for the *Electrical* and the *Mining Exhibits* will stand. North of these buildings, in the main lagoon, is an island covering an area of 20 or 30 acres, which will be kept as wild and primitive as possible to convey an idea of the *Primeval Forests*. Such of the Grand Avenue, a vast open expanse will be devoted to the *Live Stock Exhibit*. To the north will be the *Transportation Building*, in the Romanesque style. The *Horticultural Hall*, constructed of glass and iron with three domes, and the *Woman's Building*, for the exhibition of woman's work and the headquarters of the lady managers. West of this, on midway Plaisance, the *Proctor Tower* will be constructed entirely of steel, 1050 feet high, or about 150 feet higher chan the Eiffel tower. All of the important buildings will stand on terraces four feet above the general park level. Near towards the end of the moles, a small *Venetian Village* will appear through the watery streets of which miniature steamers and Venetian gondolas will ply, conducted by gondoliers in true Venetian costume. An immense *Mine*, to which people will descend in elevators through a large shaft to a depth of 590 feet, will be kept in constant operation. The different processes of digging and hewing out of the minerals will be shown, also the washing and smelting of the ores found on American soil.

A walking Side-Walk will consist of two wooden paths, one on each side of the train, on a level with the regular foot-way, which will be carried by a kind of an underground railway at the slow rate of three miles an hour, so that every man, woman or child can step on or off without the slightest danger. There will be no interspace and no place where a heel or even a child's toe could catch. From the walking-path, one steps on the train proper, that is, a continuous row of seats covered with a canopy, the whole arrangement much like a children's merry-go-round, moving at a speed of about six miles. Being already in motion in the same direction as the train, not the slightest shock is sustained by stepping on or off.

GRANT MONUMENT—LINCOLN PARK.

THE AUDITORIUM.

State Street, looking toward Masonic Temple.

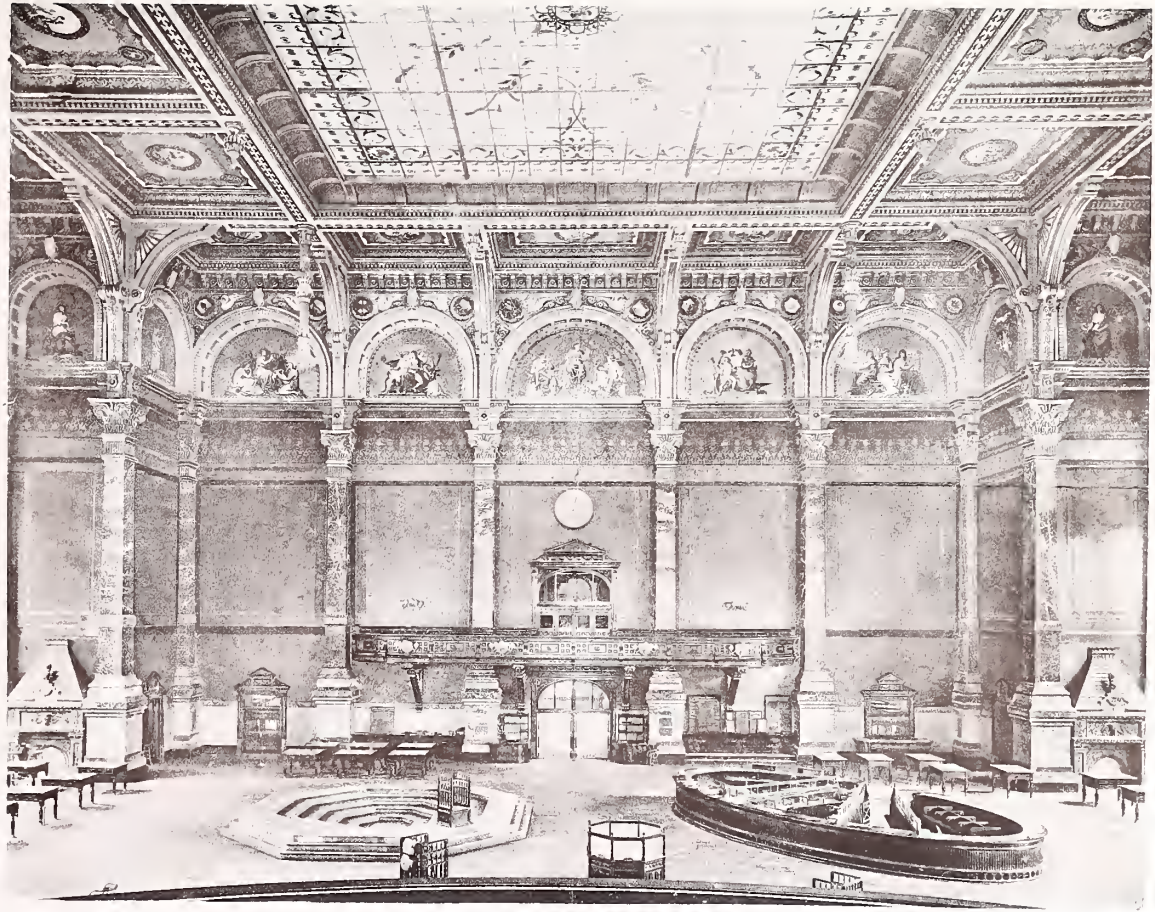
MASONIC TEMPLE.

SHERMAN HOUSE, ASHLAND BLOCK, SCHILLER THEATRE AND MASONIC TEMPLE.
RANDOLPH STREET, FROM LA SALLE STREET, EAST.

W. C. T. U. Temple.

BOARD OF TRADE AND LA SALLE STREET.

TEMPLE COURT AND OWINGS BUILDING.



EXCHANGE HALL—BOARD OF TRADE.

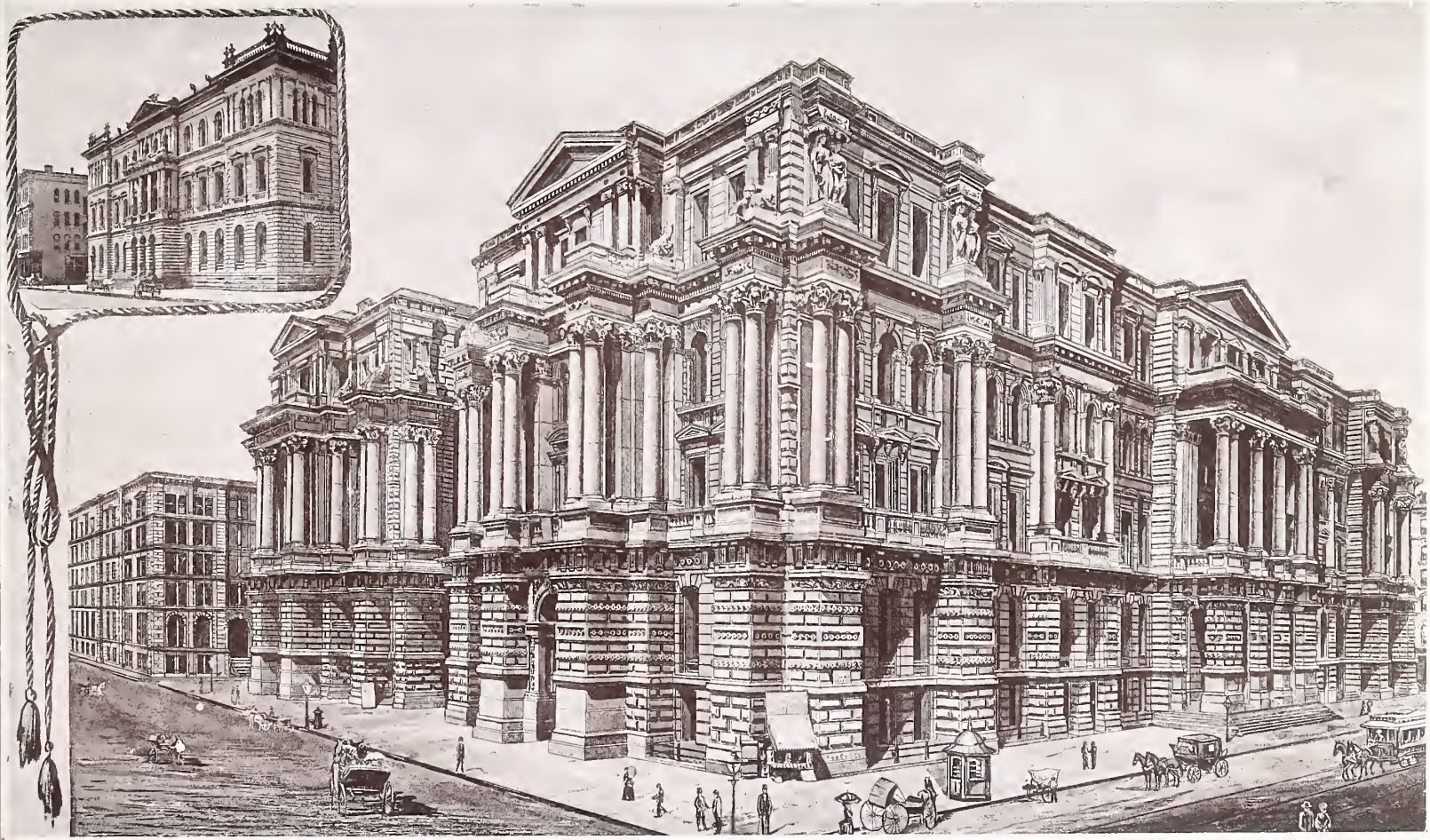
PALMER HOUSE.

Chicago, West from Tower of the Auditorium.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
FIRST NATIONAL BANK AND MONTANA BLOCK.

GERMANIA CLUB HOUSE.
RIALTO.

PHOENIX INSURANCE CO'S BUILDING.
MARSHALL FIELD & CO.



CRIMINAL COURT HOUSE.

COOK COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

NORTHERN FIREPROOF HOTEL. MONADNOCK BUILDING.

DEARBORN STREET, SOUTH OF JACKSON STREET.

ABSTRACT BUILDING—WASHINGTON STREET.

UNITY BUILDING—DEARBORN STREET.

CHICAGO RIVER, FROM CLARK STREET BRIDGE.

CHICAGO RIVER, FROM RUSH STREET BRIDGE.

HOME INSURANCE COMPANY. CHICAGO TELEPHONE CO. THE ROOKERY.

Custom House and Post Office.

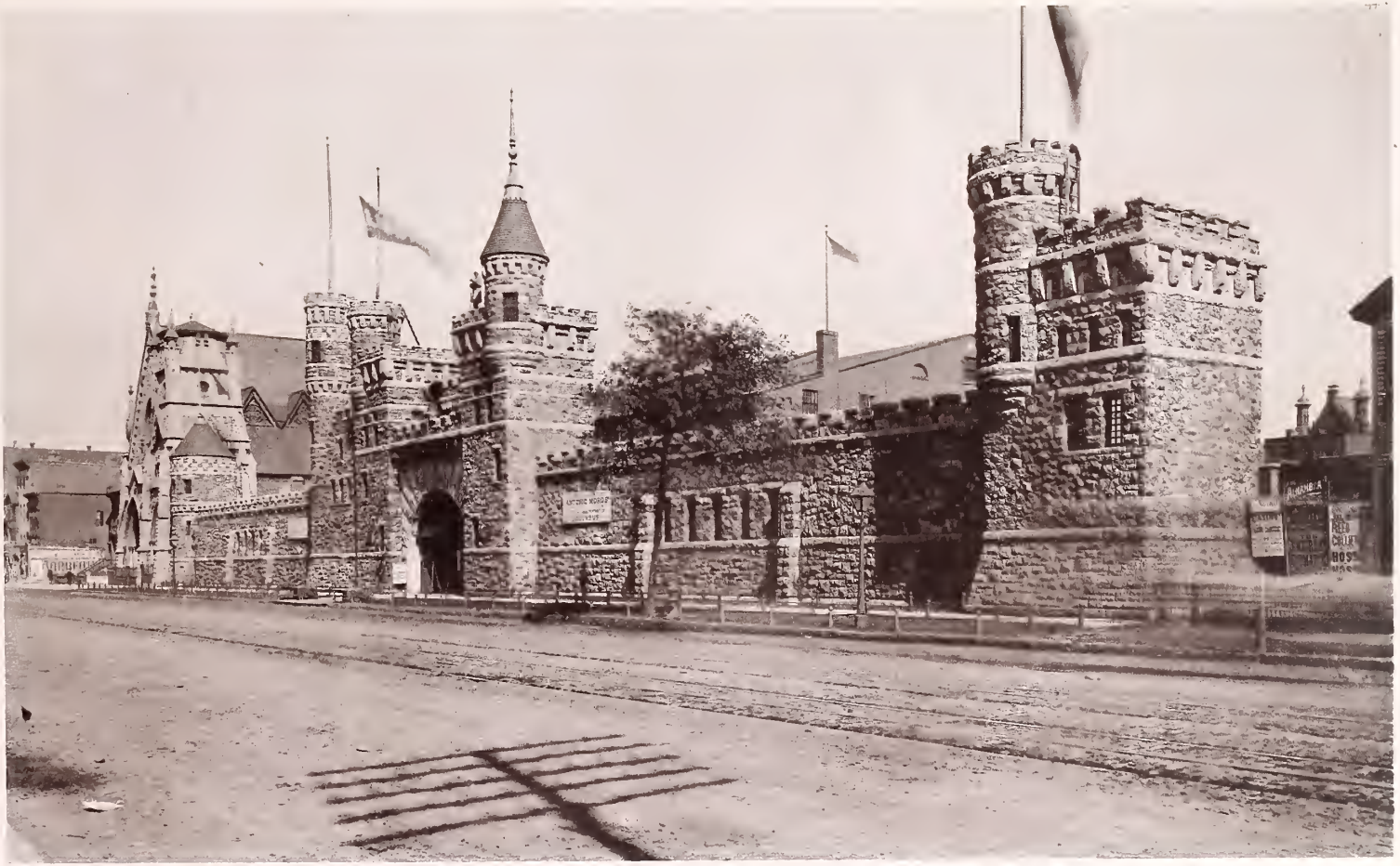
UNION DEPOT.

GRAND CENTRAL R. R. DEPOT.

CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN R. R. DEPOT.

PULLMAN BUILDING. ADAMS EXPRESS BUILDING. COUNSELMAN, GAFF & MALLER BUILDING.

Drexel Boulevard, South of Allen Flats.



LIBBY PRISON.

Sea Lion Tank.
Schiller Monument and Flower Mound.

Bear Pits.
Sphinxes at Garfield Avenue Entrance.

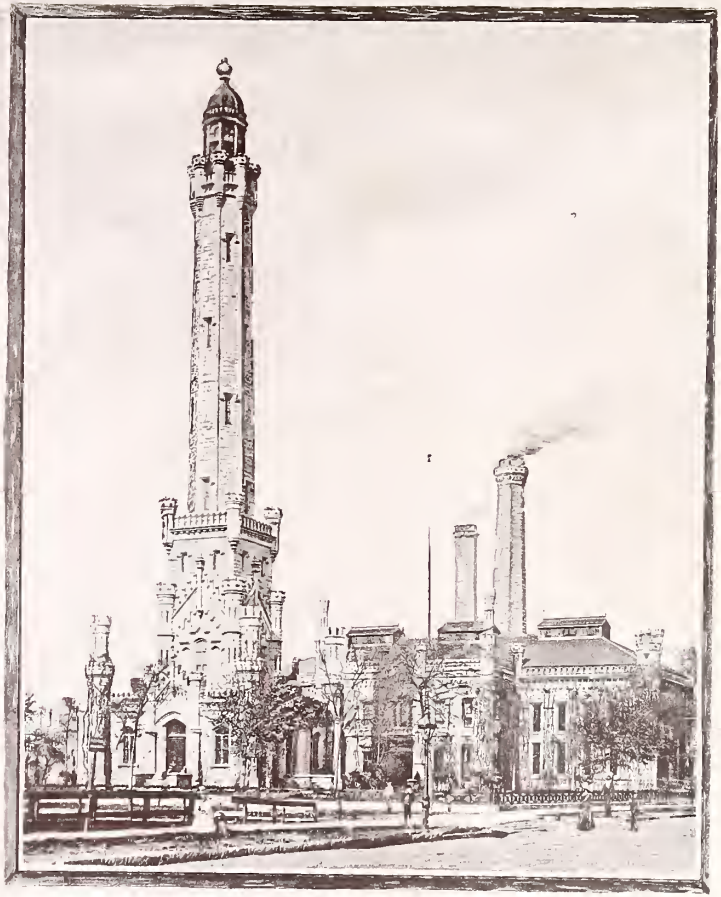
Victoria Regias—Lily Pond.
Lake and Boat House.

Lincoln Park.

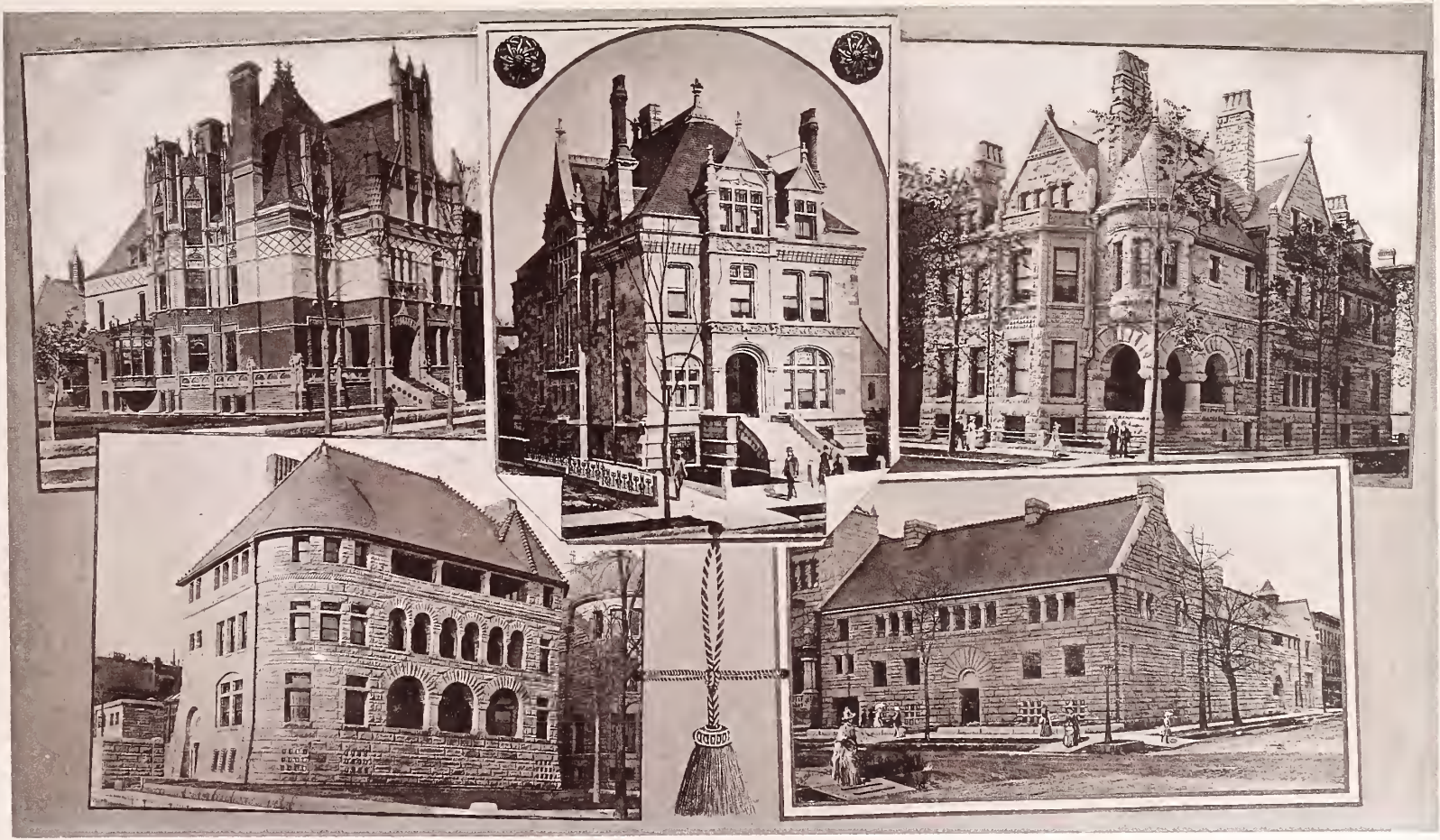
RYERSON MONUMENT TO THE NATION OF OTTAWA INDIANS. LINCOLN MONUMENT. SCHILLER MONUMENT.

LINCOLN PARK.

STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS MONUMENT,
35TH STREET AND COTTAGE GROVE AVENUE.



NORTH SIDE WATER WORKS.



CHAS. PARTRIDGE. J. A. KENT. R. R. CABLE.

FRANKLIN MAC VEAGH. CHICAGO RESIDENCES. MR. GLESNOR, PRAIRIE AVENUE.

UNION STOCK YARDS.

HENRY J. SHELDON.

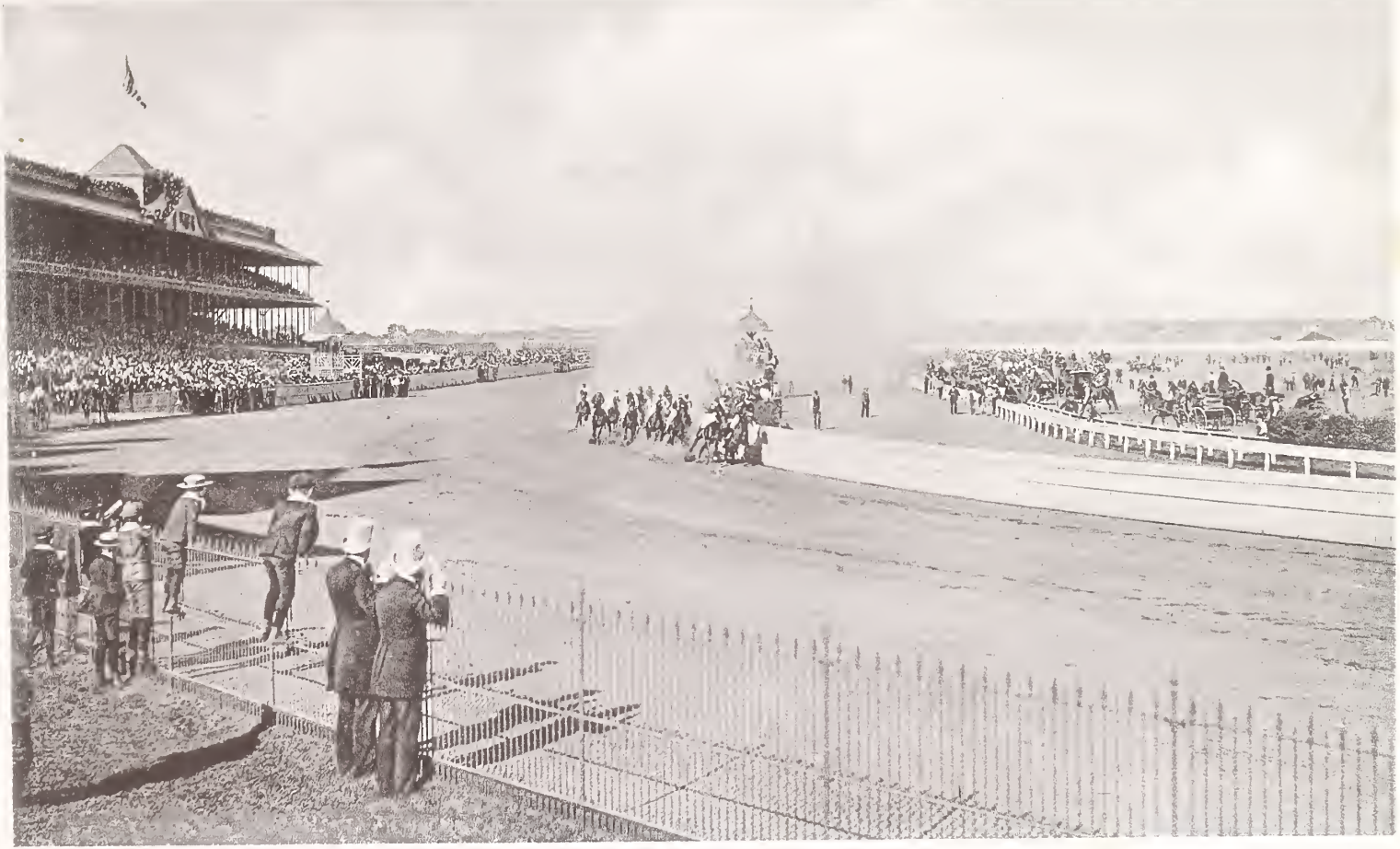
POTTER PALMER.

GEO. M. PULLMAN.

D. M. WELLS.

J. V. FARWELL.

ARCHBISHOP FEEHAN.



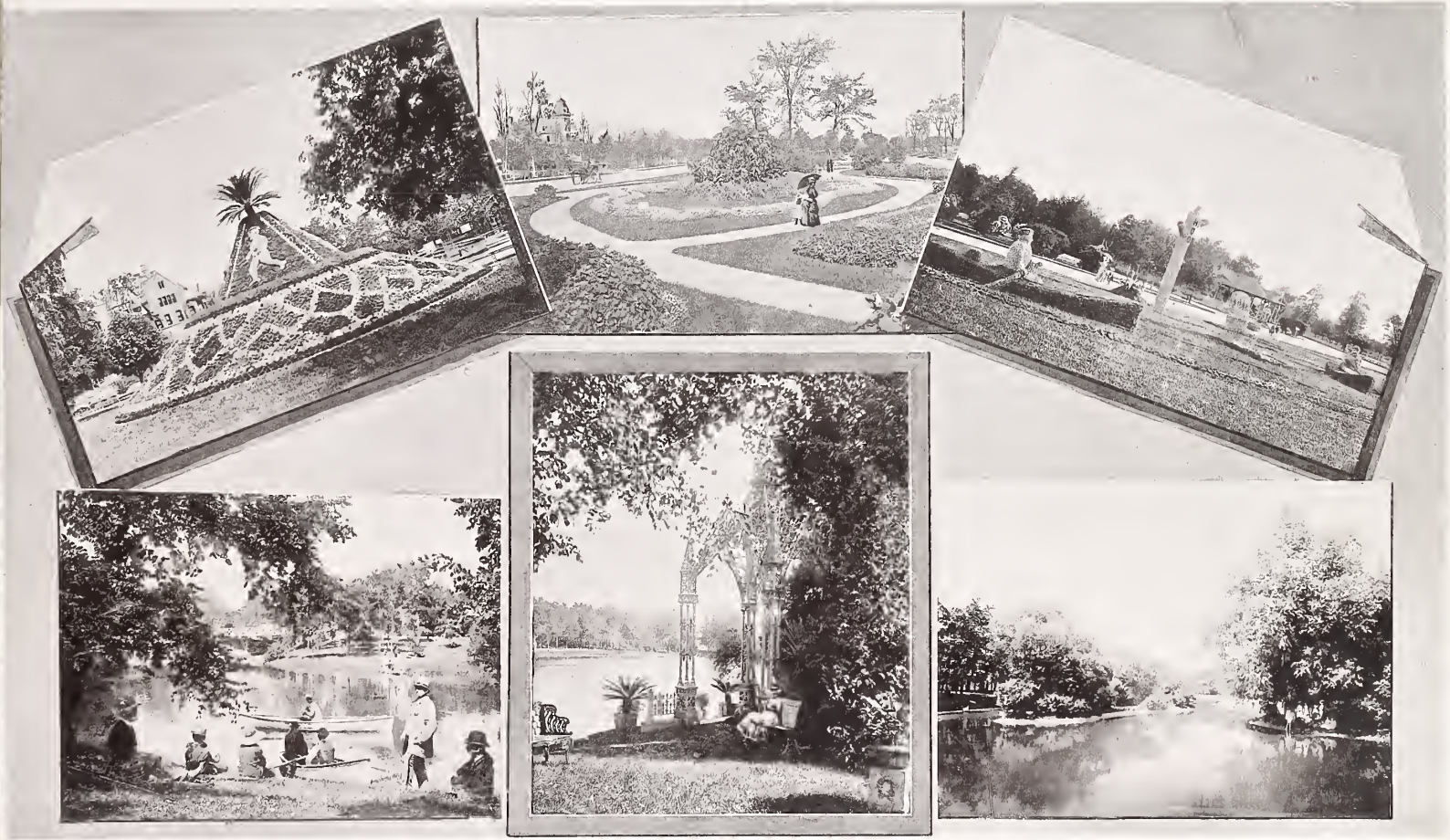
DERBY DAY AT WASHINGTON PARK.

First Baptist Church.
University of Chicago.

St. Paul's Universalist Church.
Sinai Congregation.

South Congregational Church.
Scovill Institute—Oak Park.

BASE BALL GROUNDS, JACKSON PARK.



BASE BALL MOUND, SOUTH PARK.
GARFIELD PARK.

DREXEL BOULEVARD.
VIEW IN OAKWOOD CEMETERY.

ARM CHAIR AND BOATS, SOUTH PARK.
LAKE IN JACKSON PARK.

WEST DIVISION HIGH SCHOOL.

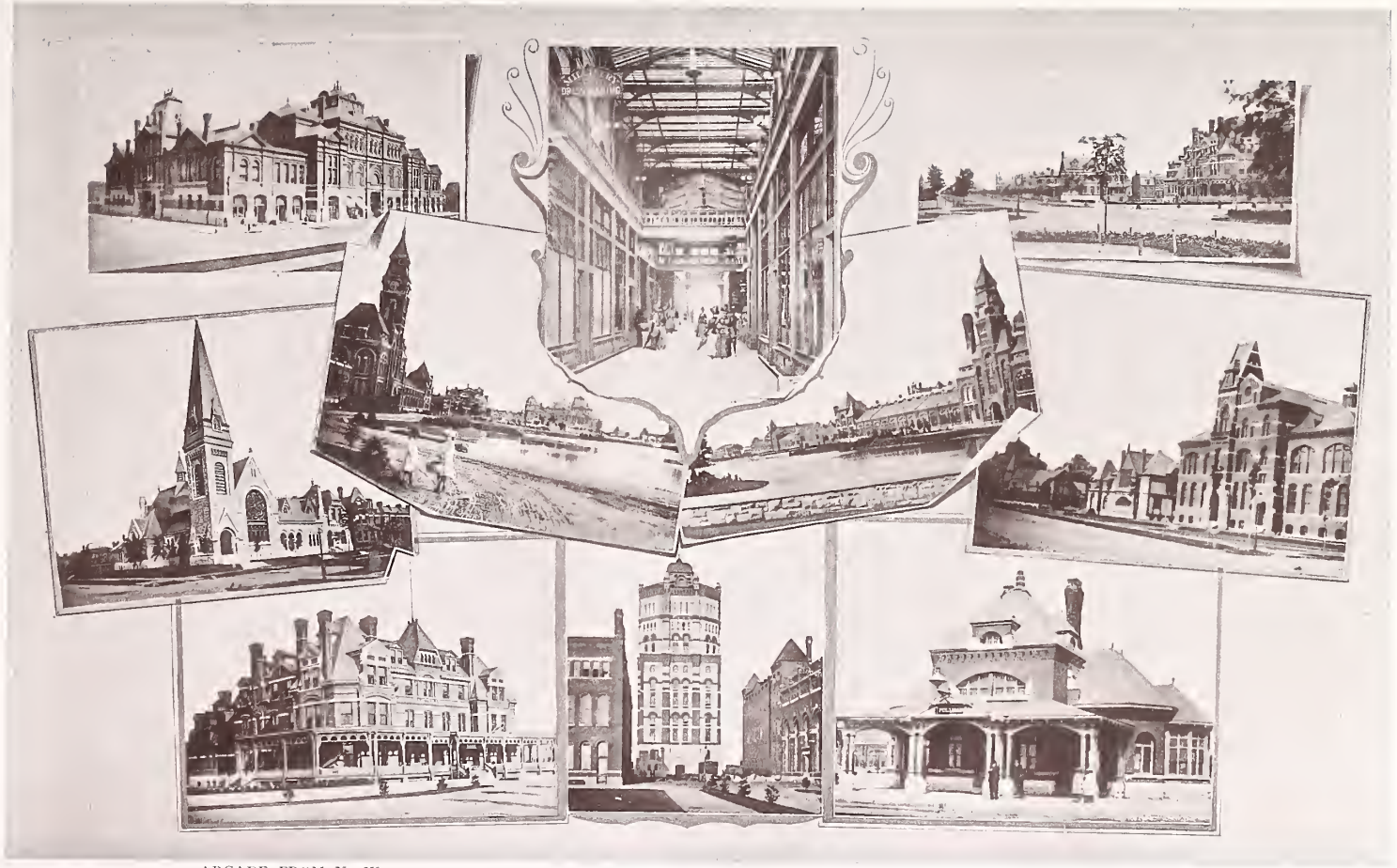
FARRAGUT CLUB.
STANDARD CLUB.

UNION LEAGUE CLUB.

BRIDGE.

MICHIGAN LAKE FRONT.

JACKSON PARK.



ARCADE FROM N. W.
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
HOTEL FLORENCE.
INTERIOR ARCADE.
LAKE VISTA FROM NORTH.
WATER TOWER.
BOULEVARD EAST FROM DEPOT.
LAKE VISTA FROM SOUTH.
CASINO STABLES AND ARCADE.
R. R. DEPOT.

PULLMAN, ILL.

BIRDS-EYE VIEW OF THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION, 1893.